

NEW CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S ORIENTATION

Pitfalls to Avoid

Barry Gane PhD
with thanks to **James W. Gilley**

Neglecting Your Spiritual Life

Alone time with God is Crucial

Books that may help

- *Steps to Christ*, Ellen G. White
- *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*, Richard Foster
- *Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation* , M. Robert Mulholland

Shortchanging Your Family

- Don't break promises to your family
- Make sure that you put quality family time into your calendar
- Be there for major family events – anniversaries, birthdays and major holidays
- Don't take your computer, phone with you on vocations

Compromising Your Health

- Have a regular exercise program
- Take time to recharge
- Eat healthy

Regular Officers Meetings

Lack of Preparation for Conference Committees

- **Have a Committee Week Schedule**
- **Close the Agenda**
- **Stay the Course**

Discouragement

- Avoid getting over tired
- Get time to exercise
- Talk things through with a trusted mentor/colleague
- Learn the warning signs for burnout
- Learn that people often attack the position not you personally

Letting Too Many Items Back-log and Drop Through the Cracks

- Don't be driven by the tyranny of the urgent - do the most important things first
- Prioritize your "to do" list
- Keep your secretary or PA informed

Forgetting the Basics

- **Vision**
- **Mission/Evangelism**
- **Stewardship**
- **Nurture of Office and Field team – recognize signs of low morale and address them**
- **Personal connection with the pastors and teachers not just through email, letter or phone**